

October 11, 2012

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: 2012 county elections: Top positions in region challenged

"... In Wayne County, newly appointed Judge Sabrina Johnson is taking on former Judge Sylvia James for the seat in Inkster's 22nd District Court. Gov. Rick Snyder named Johnson, a former Wayne County assistant prosecutor, to the bench last month after the Michigan Supreme Court removed James for misconduct."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Bashara pleads guilty in plot to kill handyman

"Robert Bashara pleaded guilty Thursday afternoon to plotting to have his former handyman — who's accused of murdering Bashara's wife, Jane — killed. Bashara entered the plea during a pretrial conference before Wayne Circuit Judge Bruce Morrow."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Bob Bashara pleads guilty to seeking a hit man to kill Joseph Gentz

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Bob Bashara pleads guilty to attempted jailhouse hit; Tried to kill his handyman

[Full story](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Livingston County probate foes split on experiences (with video)

"While each candidate seeking the Livingston County probate judge seat believes she is the most qualified, their experiences show their differences. Lori Marran, a Friend of the Court referee, worked 14 years in private practice, specializing in probate and family law, while Miriam Cavanaugh did stints as a law clerk and research attorney at the Michigan Court of Appeals and assistant prosecuting attorney in the Livingston County prosecutor's office."

[Full story](#)

Daily Press & Argus: Judge gives couple a chance to fix Brighton homes

"A Livingston County judge has ruled in favor of Brighton in its ongoing dispute over two vacant houses, but he gave the owners something they've been requesting — a chance to fix up the places. Yet the ruling only upset Dennis Dubuc, who is representing the homeowners, Leon and Marilyn Bonner."

[Full story](#)

Detroit Legal News: Nominations sought for Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement (second article)

"Recognizing outstanding work for Michigan's children is the goal of the Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award. Nominations are now open for this joint award of the Michigan Supreme Court and Michigan Department of Human Services.... The deadline to nominate a candidate for the Wright Award is Friday, Oct. 26. The Wright Award recipient will be honored at the 2012 Michigan Adoption Day event at the Michigan Hall of Justice on November 20."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Nominations sought for Daniel J. Wright Lifetime Achievement Award; honor recognizes outstanding work for Michigan children and families

[Press release](#)

Ingham County Legal News: Michigan State Courts' new web site debuts

"A new and better-organized 'One Court of Justice' web site--offering everything from forms needed for court proceedings to the latest Michigan Supreme Court and Michigan Court of Appeals decisions--debuted today, Chief Justice Robert P. Young, Jr., announced."

[Full story](#)

Ingham County Legal News: ICBA Bench/Bar Conference held

"Ingham County lawyers, judges and support personnel did not spend last Saturday morning at a tailgate party before their favorite football team took the field. Instead, they streamed into Veterans Memorial Courthouse in downtown Lansing at 8 a.m. to attend the Ingham County Bar Association (ICBA) Bench/Bar Conference."

[Full story](#)

Jackson Citizen Patriot: Court of Appeals affirms man's convictions in Jackson attempted murder case

"The Michigan Court of Appeals affirmed last week the conviction and sentence of a man serving a long prison sentence for shooting and attempting to kill a man. A jury found Dustin Marshall, 33, guilty in January 2010 of three felonies, assault with intent to murder and two firearm crimes."

[Full story](#)

Lansing State Journal: Michigan court to hear marijuana dispensaries arguments

"One of the most significant legal issues since voters approved medical marijuana is on the docket at the Michigan Supreme Court. Justices are hearing arguments Thursday about shops known as dispensaries, where people with medical marijuana cards sell homegrown pot to people who don't grow their own."

[Full story](#)

**** The article is available by subscription only. The article also ran in the Associated Press, Battle Creek Enquirer and the Port Huron Times Herald.**

Also see:

Michigan Supreme Court Hears First Oral Arguments of 2012-2013 Session; Two Medical Marijuana Cases, 10 Others to Be Heard Oct. 9-11

[Press release](#)

The Macomb Daily: Day care molestation trial abruptly halted by Supreme Court

"Emotion-filled testimony in the child molestation trial of a former Fraser day-care operator and her husband was abruptly halted Wednesday by order of the Michigan Supreme Court. The case against Stanley Duncan, 65, and his estranged wife, Vita Duncan, in Macomb County Circuit Court is on hold indefinitely, after the state's highest court unexpectedly granted a request by prosecutors to argue that a 4-year-old girl's testimony during a previous stage should be allowed as evidence."

[Full story](#)

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Teachers and school employees face pension plan deadline

"Michigan's 250,000 teachers and state school employees face a deadline of October 26th to choose a new retirement plan. But some groups are asking the State Supreme Court to extend that deadline. State legislators passed a law changing the pension system in August."

[Full story](#)

The Michigan Lawyer Blog: Erhart appointed to 90th District Court

"Harbor Springs attorney James Erhart has been appointed to the 90th District Court covering Emmet and Charlevoix counties. The appointment fills the vacancy created when Judge Richard May resigned. Erhart's appointment is through Jan. 1, 2015. He must seek election in November 2014 to serve a full six-year term."

[Full story](#)

The Oakland Press: Free seminar will focus on how probate court operates in county

"The Oakland County Probate Court will conduct a free seminar 'Removing the Mysteries of Probate Court' from 1 to 3 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 12 at the Royal Oak Senior Center 3500 Marais, Royal Oak."

[Full story](#)

The State News/East Lansing: Ingham County candidates face off in forum

"... Also present at the [Wednesday October 10] forum were state Rep. Mark Meadows, D-East Lansing, and East Lansing lawyer Andrea Larkin, who are competing for the 54-B district court judge seat and touted their judicial experience across the board."

[Full story](#)

Washtenaw County Legal News: Profanity in the courtroom

"Jackson County 12th District Court Judge Darryl Mazur has seen people standing before him get angry and use profanity. In fact, the judge said it happened in September."

[Full story](#)

WILX-TV(10)/Lansing: Judge Wants to Fix Michigan Public Defense System

"A patchwork quilt is how Judge Thomas Boyd describes Michigan's public defense system, where there's no common agency to ensure the standard of public defenders for those who can't afford an attorney. According to Judge Boyd, at worst it's put the innocent behind bars and put citizens at risk."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Michigan Radio/Ann Arbor: Bill to reform Michigan's public defender system comes before Senate panel

[Full story](#)